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NEWS RELEASE

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Utah To Receive \$8.27 Million In Federal Homeland Security Grants

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security today informed the State of Utah it will receive \$8.27 million in federal homeland security grant funds for FY2006.

The money, which has not been officially awarded yet, will be used for training, equipment, exercises and planning for agencies throughout Utah. The state expects to receive the official award document from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security by the end of June. After receiving the award document the state has 60 days to obligate funds to local agencies. More than \$6.6 million, or 80 percent, of that money will be passed directly to local agencies across the state. State agencies will use the remaining 20 percent to enhance homeland security projects throughout Utah.

Once the official award document is received, the Utah Department of Public Safety's Division of Homeland Security will work with an existing advisory board to prioritize and coordinate distribution of the grant money. The board is comprised of representatives from law enforcement, emergency medical services, local emergency management agencies, fire service agencies, public works, government administrative services, public safety communications, healthcare and public health.

Utah's \$8.27 million is part of more than \$1.7 billion the U.S. Department of Homeland Security will be awarding to agencies nationwide to help the nation prevent, respond to and recover from potential acts of terrorism and other emergencies.